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RCE/3728
#13

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Attorney Docket No. 2267.416US02

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION
(RCE) TRANSMITTAL

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AUG - 7 2002

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Box RCE
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of Application No. 09/523,745, filed March 13, 2000 for: WAFER CONTAINER WITH MINIMAL CONTACT, by: David L. Nyseth.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114
 - a. ☐ Previously submitted
 - ☐ Please enter in the present application the unentered Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116, with any attachments, filed on _____ in said prior application.
 - ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - ☐ Other _____
 - b. ☒ Enclosed
 - ☒ A Preliminary Amendment is enclosed. Claims added by this Amendment are properly numbered consecutively beginning with the number next following the highest numbered claim in the prior application.
 - ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - ☒ Other Request for Extension of Time for 2 Months

2. ☒ The filing fee is calculated below:

08/01/2002 BNGUYEN1 00000125 09523745

01 FC:179

740.00 0P

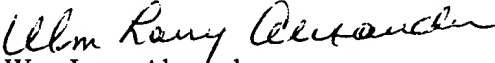
	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest No. Previously Paid For	Present Extra (Equals)	Small Entity Rate	Add'l Fee	OR	Large Entity Rate	Add'l Fee
Total	16	- [20]**	= 0	x 9	\$		x 18	\$0
Indep.	3	- [3]***	= 0	x 42	\$		x 84	\$0
RCE fee				+ 370	\$		+ 740	\$740
Mult. Dep.			=	+ 140	\$		+ 280	\$0
TOTAL					\$	OR	TOTAL	\$740

☐ First Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claim [MDC]

- * If the entry in Column 1 is less than the entry in Column 2, write "0" in Column 3.
 - ** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 20, write "20" in this space.
 - *** If the "Highest Number Previously Paid For" IN THIS SPACE is less than 3, write "3" in this space.
- The "Highest Number Previously Paid For" (Total or Independent) is the highest number found from the equivalent box in Column 1 of a prior Amendment or the number of claims originally filed.

3. [X] A check in the amount of \$1,140.00 is enclosed (for the Extension of Time and the RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.114 when the RCE is filed). The Commissioner is hereby authorized to grant any extensions of time and to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required during the entire pendency of this application to Deposit Account No. 16-0631.

Respectfully submitted,

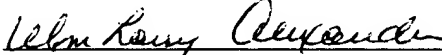

Wm. Larry Alexander
Registration No. 37,269

Please grant any extension of time necessary for entry; charge any fee due to Deposit Account No. 16-0631.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this document is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

25 July 2002
Date of Deposit


Wm. Larry Alexander



COPY OF PAPER
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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of:

Attorney Docket No.: 2267.416US02

NYSETH

Application No.: 09/523,745

Examiner: David T. Fidei

Filed: March 13, 2000

Group Art Unit: 3728

For: WAFER CONTAINER WITH MINIMAL CONTACT

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Box RCE
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims

Please substitute the following amended claims for those currently pending:

6. (Once Amended) A wafer carrier for holding wafers in a substantially horizontal arrangement, the wafers having a lower surface, the carrier having an open front, a backside, a top portion, a bottom portion, a left side and a right side, the carrier further comprising:

a pair of wafer support columns extending from the top portion to the bottom portion, one support column located at the right side and one located at the left side, each wafer support column comprised of a plurality of vertically arranged elongate shelves, each shelf comprised of at least two upwardly extending elongate beads oriented inwardly with respect to the wafers and transversely with respect to the plurality of vertically arranged shelves for providing minimal contact with the lower surface of a wafer at each bead, each shelf further having an insertion level and a seating level for a wafer, whereby a wafer may be inserted into the carrier through the